



ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING

4/14/21 7:30 PM

Conducted by Remote Participation - Zoom Meeting  
(Not Voted)

ATTENDEES:

Gibian	P	Padaria		Pokress	p	Kellar	p	McKenna	p
Blundell	P	Wallach	p	Harmer	p	Tosti	p		
Ellis	P	Foskett	p	Deyst	p	Kocur	p		
Healy	P	Beck		Jones	p	Deshler	p		
Franclemont	P	Howard	p	LaCourt	p	Carman	p	Diggins	p

p Indicates present, l indicates late

VISITORS: Diane Mahon, Jeff Munro

1. INTRODUCTION: Foskett read the rules for the meeting as formulated by Town Counsel based on the Governor's authorization. An important rule is that all votes be by role call. Attendance was taken by roll call.

Note: A vote of "unanimous" means "unanimous vote by all present". The Chair votes only when there is a tie. Note that Warrant article numbers are written: ART New Number (Old Number)

2. Foskett said that according to Representative Sean Garballey the House Budget shows no change in the major state aid accounts from the Governor's budget. Thus it is OK to complete our budget votes.

3. MINUTES of 4/12/21 approved unanimously as corrected.

4. RETIREMENT: Jones said PERAC has changed the needed cost by \$44. He moved the revised total.

VOTED 12,635,573 17-0-1 McKenna abstained.

5. ART 75(53) FISCAL STABILITY STABILIZATION FUND (Override Fund)  
Jones walked the FinCom through Appendix C of the FinCom Report To Town Meeting (Ref 1). He showed the expected revenues, the total of budget appropriations and the total cost of appropriation articles voted to date. The result was a deficit of \$6,243,212. He also showed Sandy Pooler's latest long range plan (Ref 2) that shows the same deficit. The biggest change from earlier versions of the LRP is the increased cost of health insurance, about \$300k. As

usual the budget will be balanced using the Override Fund, in this case a withdrawal. A discussion of the LRP projections ensued. According to this projection the fund will be too small to balance the FY24 budget. Thus an override vote will be needed at the end of FY 23 or else drastic cuts will be needed. Furthermore the size of this override will be about twice the size of previous overrides as discussed in early FinCom meetings this year. It must be large enough to last for several years to allow efficient multi year contracts and labor agreements. Members suggested appropriate planning but no panic. VOTED \$6,243,212 Unanimous

6. ART 25(27) RE TRANSFER TAX: Tosti stated that the SB voted affirmative action for this home rule petition. Jenny Raitt presented this article to the FinCom on 3/17. Tosti recommended no report since this article does not request an appropriation, does not directly affect the real estate tax, and does not affect the budget. It is a policy question. VOTED no report Unanimous.

7. RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$1,556,724

COMMITTEE: Foskett is working with Diggins on the text of the report. It will be ready for review in a few days. He asked everyone to check it for accuracy. Corrections at Town Meeting are awkward.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24.

Peter Howard  
4/15/21

Ref 1 Draft Report to Town Meeting Appendix C  
Ref 2 Long Range Plan

**APPENDIX C**  
**Summary of Finance Committee Recommendations**  
**Fiscal Year 2022**

Ref 1

**REVENUES**

**PROPERTY TAX DETAIL**

FY 2021 levy limit	126,776,920
+2.5%	3,169,423
New growth	650,000
High school debt exclusion	2,858,975
Minuteman debt exclusion	1,610,964
Other town debt exclusions	5,830,616
less MSBA receipts	0
MWRA debt (debt shift)	1,845,727
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAX</b>	<b>142,742,625</b>

**SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AID (MSBA)**

Bishop	0
Brackett	0
Hardy	0
Peirce	0
<b>TOTAL EXEMPT RECEIPTS</b>	<b>0</b>
Ottoson (non-exempt)	0
<b>TOTAL EXEMPT RECEIPTS</b>	<b>0</b>

**LOCAL RECEIPTS DETAIL**

Motor vehicle excise	4,293,350
Other excise - hotel	325,000
Other excise - meals	300,000
Penalties & interest	355,000
Payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT)	18,000
Fees	889,000
Rentals	142,000
Schools Medicare	100,000
Dept revenue - libraries	
Dept revenue - cemeteries	265,000
Dept revenue - recreation	
Other departmental revenue	225,000
Licenses and permits	1,705,000
Special assessments	
Fines and forfeits	15,000
Investment income	241,000
Medicare Part D	0
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>8,873,350</b>

**LOCAL AID ("CHERRY SHEET") DETAIL**

**RECEIPTS**

<b>Education</b>	
Chapter 70	14,741,108
Charter Tuition Assessment Reimbursement	71,445

**Offset Receipts**

School Lunch Assistance	0
School Choice Receiving Tuition	0
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>14,812,553</b>

**General Government**

Additional Assistance	0
Total unrestricted gen'l gov't (UGGA)	8,338,017
Annual Formula Local Aid	0
Veterans' Benefits	163,956
Exemptions: Vets, blind, Elderly, etc.	114,525

**Offset Receipts**

Public Libraries	71,523
<b>Total General Government</b>	<b>8,688,021</b>

**Total Estimated Receipts**

Ch 70 add from SFSF	0
School Construction (MSBA)	0
<b>Local Aid Receipts inc MSBA</b>	<b>23,500,574</b>

**ASSESSMENTS**

**State Assessments and Charges**

Retired Employee's Health Insurance	0
Air Pollution Districts	19,323
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	25,084
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	33,560
<b>Total Assess. &amp; Charges</b>	<b>77,967</b>

**Transportation Authorities**

MBTA	3,093,591
Boston Metro. Transit District	744
<b>Total MBTA Assessment</b>	<b>3,094,335</b>

**Annual Charges Against Receipts**

Special Education	20,415
<b>Total Annual Charges</b>	<b>20,415</b>

**Tuition Assessments**

School Choice Sending Tuition	154,615
Charter School Sending Tuition	256,912
<b>Total Tuition Assessments</b>	<b>411,527</b>
<b>Total Estimated Charges</b>	<b>3,604,244</b>
<b>NET LOCAL AID</b>	<b>19,896,330</b>

**APPROPRIATIONS**

**BUDGETS (Article 55)**

<b>Town Manager</b>	
3 Town Manager	748,219
4 Human Resources	364,696
5 Information Technology	1,093,811
6 Comptroller	345,301
7 Treasurer-Collector	723,756
9 Board of Assessors	345,085
10 Legal	471,191
14 Planning & Community Development	617,673
15 Redevelopment Board	10,800
17 a. Public Works Administration	221,364
17 b. Engineering	163,873
17 c. Cemetery	284,680
17 d. Natural Resources (inc. field maintenance)	1,791,102
17 e. Sanitation/Highway Div. (inc. snow & ice)	6,990,437
17 f. Motor Equipment Repair	443,866
17 g. Street lighting, traffic signals	230,000
18 Facilities	812,849
19 Police Services	8,740,639
20 Fire Services	7,735,282
21 Inspections	542,614
23 Libraries	2,644,669
24 a. Health and Human Services Administration	811,017
24 b. Veterans' Services	326,996
24 c. Council on Aging	392,848
24 d. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	139,561
<b>Total Town Manager</b>	<b>36,992,329</b>

**Select Board**

2 a. Administration and Licensing	295,097
2 d. Accounting and Auditing	78,000
13 Parking	58,056
16 Zoning Board of Appeals	33,134
<b>Total Select Board</b>	<b>464,287</b>

**Town Clerk**

11 Town Clerk	270,976
12 Board of Registrars	73,012
<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>343,988</b>

**Retirement**

25 a Contributory Pensions	12,616,206
25 b Non-Contributory Pensions	19,367
<b>Total Pensions</b>	<b>12,635,573</b>

**Fixed Budgets**

26 Insurance	20,212,725
8 Postage	185,869
2 b. Elections and Town Meeting	72,943
27 Reserve Fund	2,814,200
<b>Total Fixed Budgets</b>	<b>23,285,737</b>
1 Finance Committee	11,146
22 Education *	80,104,634
<b>Total Budgets (Article 55)</b>	<b>153,837,694</b>

**WARRANT ARTICLES**

**TOTAL BUDGETS**

55 <b>Total Budgets</b>	<b>153,837,694</b>
56 <b>Capital Plan</b>	<b>18,073,998</b>

**OTHER WARRANT ARTICLES**

53 Positions reclassification	63,474
54 Collective Bargaining / Salary Reserve	671,485
61 Minuteman Regional School	6,795,456
62 Arlington Historical Commission	2,660
62 Historic District Commissions	5,100
62 Capital Planning Committee	0
62 Disabilities Commission	25,000
62 Zero Waste Arlington (was Recycling)	3,000
62 Human Rights Commission	7,500
62 LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission	4,000
62 Tourism & Econ. Development	4,275
62 Envision Arlington (was Vision 2020)	3,000
62 Transportation Advisory	2,000
62 Scenic Byway	2,000
62 Arlington Commission on Arts & Culture	30,000
62 Open Space Committee	300
63 Town Day	5,000
63 Flags on graves of veterans	4,500
63 Veteran's, Mem., Patriot's Day	5,667
64 Indemnification, medical costs	10,759
64 Legal defense fund	0
65 Water bodies (Cons Comm)	50,000
66 Park Ave Traffic Study	0
68 "Harry Barber" Community Service program	7,500
70 Town Clerk Study	10,000
71 Retiree health insurance (OPEB)	935,633
76 Long term stabilization fund	100,000
<b>TOTAL OTHER ARTICLES</b>	<b>8,748,309</b>
<b>TOTAL WARRANT ARTICLES</b>	<b>180,660,001</b>

**ENTERPRISE FUNDS**

**A. WATER & SEWER**

Expenses	5,983,294
Capital	1,611,595
Assessment	15,227,173
Indirect charges	766,866
Total expenses	23,588,928
Total revenues	23,588,928
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>

**B. RECREATION**

Expenses	1,671,892
Capital	49,000
Total expenses	1,720,892
Total revenues	1,720,892
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>

**C. ED BURNS ARENA**

Expenses	536,748
Capital	56,256
Total expenses	593,004
Total revenues	593,004
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>

**D. COUNCIL ON AGING TRANSPORTATION**

Expenses	140,300
Total revenues	90,300
From general fund	50,000
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>

**E. ARLINGTON YOUTH COUNCILING SVCS**

Expenses	904,135
Total revenues	784,135
From general fund	120,000
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>

**ENTERPRISE FUND SUMMARY**

Budget	9,236,369
Capital	1,716,851
Assessment	15,227,173
Indirect charges	766,866
Total expenses	26,947,259
Total revenues	26,777,259
Total from general fund	170,000
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>

**SUMMARY**

**SUMMARY OF 2022 REVENUES**

Property Tax Levy (n/l Symmes)	142,742,625
Local Aid Receipts n/l MSBA	23,500,574
School Construction Aid (MSBA)	0
Local Receipts	8,873,350
Overlay reserve surplus (Art 74)	400,000
Fiscal stability fund (Article 75)	6,243,212
Health Claims Trust Fund	300,000
Use of free cash (Article 77)	5,659,184
<b>TOTAL OF 2022 REVENUES</b>	<b>187,718,945</b>

**SUMMARY OF 2022 EXPENDITURES**

Town Budgets (Article 55)	73,733,060
Education *	80,104,634
Capital Plan	18,073,998
Warrant articles	1,952,853
Minuteman Regional School	6,795,456
Youth Services subsidy	120,000
C of A Trans subsidy	50,000
MWRA debt (debt shift)	1,845,727
MBTA assessment	3,093,591
Educ. & Library offset receipts	71,523
Charter/choice tuitions	411,527
Other state assessments	99,126
Reserve for court judgements	100,000
Symmes urban renewal	667,450
Snow & ice deficit	0
Overlay reserve (holdback)	600,000
Fiscal stability fund (Article 75)	0
<b>TOTAL OF 2022 EXPENDITURE!</b>	<b>187,718,945</b>

**2022 REVENUES LESS EXPENDITURES**

	(0)
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# **APPENDIX D** **Long Range Projection FY2022-FY2026**

	FY 2021	FY 2022	Dollar Change	Percent Change	FY 2023	Dollar Change	FY 2024	Dollar Change	FY 2025	Dollar Change	FY 2026	Dollar Change
<b>I REVENUE</b>												
A. State Aid	23,136,038	23,532,421	396,383	1.71%	23,763,212	230,791	23,996,311	233,099	24,231,741	235,430	24,469,526	237,785
School Construction Aid	476,523	0	(476,523)	-100.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B. Local Receipts	7,906,301	8,873,350	967,049	12.23%	9,225,900	352,550	9,578,450	352,550	9,703,450	125,000	9,803,450	100,000
C. Free Cash	5,901,388	5,659,184	(242,204)	-4.10%	4,366,659	(1,292,525)	4,366,659	0	4,366,659	0	4,366,659	0
D. Overlay Reserve Surplus	400,000	400,000	0	0.00%	400,000	0	400,000	0	200,000	(200,000)	200,000	0
E. Property Tax	138,199,500	142,742,625	4,543,125	3.29%	144,662,199	1,919,574	148,472,153	3,809,954	152,319,918	3,847,765	156,237,824	3,917,906
F. Override Stabilization Fund	2,024,197	6,248,581	4,224,384	208.69%	10,406,189	4,157,608	7,614,082	(2,792,107)	0	(7,614,082)	0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>178,043,947</b>	<b>187,456,161</b>	<b>9,412,214</b>	<b>5.29%</b>	<b>192,824,159</b>	<b>5,367,998</b>	<b>194,427,655</b>	<b>1,603,496</b>	<b>190,821,768</b>	<b>(3,605,887)</b>	<b>195,077,459</b>	<b>4,255,691</b>
<b>II APPROPRIATIONS</b>												
A. School Additions	140,000	1,030,000	890,000	635.71%	1,030,000	0						
General Education Costs	50,183,324	52,809,670	2,626,346	5.23%	55,724,058	2,914,388	59,095,559	3,371,501	61,942,120	2,846,561	64,722,090	2,779,970
Special Education Costs	24,546,695	26,264,964	1,718,269	7.00%	28,103,511	1,838,547	30,070,757	1,967,246	32,175,710	2,104,953	34,428,010	2,252,300
Growth Factor	700,512	0	(700,512)	-	343,100	343,100	751,900	408,800	591,300	(160,600)	766,500	175,200
<b>Net School Budget</b>	<b>75,570,531</b>	<b>80,104,634</b>	<b>4,534,103</b>	<b>6.00%</b>	<b>85,200,669</b>	<b>5,096,035</b>	<b>89,918,216</b>	<b>5,747,547</b>	<b>94,709,130</b>	<b>4,790,914</b>	<b>99,916,600</b>	<b>5,207,470</b>
<u>Minuteman Operating &amp; Capital</u>	4,834,357	5,184,492	350,135	7.24%	5,365,949	181,457	5,553,757	187,808	5,748,138	194,381	5,949,323	201,185
<u>Minuteman Exempt Capital</u>	1,279,014	1,610,964	331,950	25.95%	1,610,964	0	1,610,964	0	1,610,964	0	1,610,964	0
Town Personnel Services	29,203,669	30,245,340	1,041,671	3.57%	31,228,314	982,974	32,243,234	1,014,920	1,014,920	0	1,047,905	0
Town Expenses	11,312,375	11,509,810	197,435	1.75%	11,883,879	374,069	12,270,105	386,226	386,226	0	398,778	0
Enterprise Fund/Other	2,642,197	2,916,046	273,849	10.36%	3,010,817	94,771	3,108,669	97,852	3,209,701	101,032	3,314,016	104,315
<b>Net Town Budget</b>	<b>37,873,847</b>	<b>38,839,104</b>	<b>965,257</b>	<b>2.55%</b>	<b>40,101,376</b>	<b>1,262,272</b>	<b>41,404,670</b>	<b>1,303,294</b>	<b>42,750,321</b>	<b>1,345,651</b>	<b>44,139,707</b>	<b>1,389,386</b>
MWRA Debt Shift	3,691,454	1,845,727	(1,845,727)	-50.00%	0	(1,845,727)	0	0	0	0	0	0
B. Capital budget												
Exempt Debt Service	6,942,104	8,689,591	1,747,487	25.17%	8,589,983	(99,608)	8,488,406	(101,577)	8,376,851	(111,555)	8,286,454	(90,397)
Non-Exempt Service	6,573,279	7,117,439	544,160	8.28%	7,304,897	187,458	7,158,508	(146,389)	6,824,795	(333,713)	7,269,379	444,584
Cash	4,329,512	3,959,297	(370,215)	-8.55%	2,953,369	(1,005,928)	3,566,859	613,490	4,439,241	872,382	4,401,723	(37,518)
Offsets/Capital Carry Forward	(1,591,567)	(1,692,329)	(100,762)	6.33%	(389,015)	1,303,314	(441,086)	(52,071)	(499,637)	(58,551)	(442,021)	57,616
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>16,253,328</b>	<b>18,073,998</b>	<b>1,820,670</b>	<b>11.20%</b>	<b>18,459,234</b>	<b>385,236</b>	<b>18,772,687</b>	<b>313,453</b>	<b>19,141,250</b>	<b>368,563</b>	<b>19,515,535</b>	<b>374,285</b>
C. Pensions	11,921,239	12,635,573	714,334	5.99%	13,393,707	758,134	14,197,329	803,622	15,049,169	851,840	15,952,119	902,950
D. Insurance	18,858,788	20,212,725	1,353,937	7.18%	21,345,739	1,133,014	22,628,857	1,283,118	23,948,708	1,319,851	25,169,067	1,220,359
E. State Assessments	3,555,261	3,712,983	157,722	4.44%	3,803,930	90,947	3,897,151	93,221	3,992,702	95,551	4,090,642	97,940
F. Overlay Reserve	961,455	600,000	(361,455)	-37.59%	600,000	0	600,000	0	800,000	200,000	600,000	(200,000)
G. Reserve Fund	1,556,724	2,814,200	1,257,476	80.78%	1,738,280	(1,075,920)	1,783,252	44,972	1,824,449	41,197	1,867,910	43,461
H. Court Judgments/Symmes	671,950	767,450	95,500	14.21%	100,000	(667,450)	100,000	0	100,000	0	100,000	0
I. Warrant Articles	1,015,999	1,054,311	38,312	3.77%	1,104,311	50,000	1,054,311	(50,000)	1,004,311	(50,000)	954,311	(50,000)
J. Override Stabilization Fund	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>K. TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>178,043,947</b>	<b>187,456,161</b>	<b>9,412,214</b>	<b>5.29%</b>	<b>192,824,159</b>	<b>5,367,998</b>	<b>201,521,194</b>	<b>9,727,035</b>	<b>210,679,142</b>	<b>9,157,948</b>	<b>219,866,178</b>	<b>9,187,036</b>
<b>L. BALANCE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>		<b>(7,093,539)</b>		<b>(19,857,374)</b>		<b>(24,788,719)</b>	
Free Cash	11,318,368	8,733,319			8,733,319		8,733,319		8,733,319		8,733,319	
Stabilization Fund	3,683,965	3,857,644			4,034,797		4,215,493		4,399,802		4,587,799	
Override Stabilization Fund***	24,268,852	18,020,271			7,614,082		0		0		0	
Municipal Bldg. Ins. Trust Fund	751,724	774,276			797,504		821,430		846,072		871,455	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>40,022,909</b>	<b>31,385,510</b>			<b>21,179,702</b>		<b>13,770,241</b>		<b>13,979,194</b>		<b>14,192,572</b>	
% of General Fund Revenue	22%	17%			11%		7%		7%		7%	

The plan does not include any projected revenues or expenditures from the Community Preservation Act

Projected School Enrollment Growth FY 2020 - FY 2026

	FY 2021*	FY 2022*	FY 2023*	FY 2024*	FY 2025*	FY 2026*
Actual/Proj. Annual Growth	96	0	47	103	81	105
** Actual Growth - FY17 50% PPC of \$1,433 = \$7,166 X EG						
* Projected Growth - FY2022 through FY2026 Based on 50% of FY19 DESE Per Pupil Cost of \$14,601 = \$7,300 X Enrollment Growth						